

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 CHIANG 00275 280809Z  
ACTION SCSE-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W  
-----110250 281342Z /47  
R 280431Z JUL 77  
FM AMCONSUL CHIANG MAI  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 480  
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

UNCLAS CHIANG MAI 275  
E.O.11652: CDES, TH, (GANEK, DAVID LEWIN)  
TAGS: DEATH OF DAVID LEWIN GANEK

REFS: (A) STATE 176105 (NOTAL)  
(B) DEPARTMENT'S OM DATED 6/29/77

1. THE CONSULATE RECEIVED DEPARTMENT'S OM ON JULY 15 AND

REPLIED DIRECTLY TO MR. FIDDLE IN A LETTER DATED JULY 20.  
COPY WAS ALSO SENT TO SCS. THAT LETTER INCLUDED THE  
FOLLOWING  
INFORMATION;

2. "STATE OF FORENSIC MEDICINE IN NORTH THAILAND IS HARDLY  
COMPARABLE TO THAT IN THE UNITED STATES....EQUIPMENT AND FACILI-  
TIES ARE SIMPLY NOT AVAILABLE WHICH WOULD ALLOW THE KIND OF  
TISSUE EXAMINATION WHICH MIGHT BE FOLLOWED IN THE UNITED STATES.

3. "UPON RECEIPT OF YOUR LETTER WE AGAIN SPOKE WITH DR.  
SRI SRIDUKRI,...SHE STATED THAT WHEN THE AUTOPSY WAS PERFORMED  
THERE WAS NO PRECISE MEASUREMENT MADE OF THE AMOUNT OF MEPRO-  
BAMATE IN DAVID'S SYSTEM. IT WAS NOTED, HOWEVER THAT THE  
DRUG WAS PRESENT IN HIS STOMACH, LIVER, AND BLOODSTREAM, WHICH  
INDICATES THAT THE AMOUNT INGESTED WAS CONSIDERABLE....WHILE  
MEPROBAMATE WAS THE ONLY DRUG WHICH DR. SRISUKRI IDENTIFIED,  
SHE STATED THAT SHE COULD NOT RULE OUT THE POSSIBILITY  
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THAT OTHER DRUGS OR TOXIC SUBSTANCES WERE PRESENT, THOUGH  
UNDETECTED."

4. OUR LETTER OF JULY 20 INCLUDES ALL THE INFORMATION WE  
HAVE REGARDING THE CIRCUMSTANCES SURROUNDING MR. GANEK'S  
DEATH. WE VERY FRANKLY BELIEVE THAT A SKILLED AND TRAINED  
INVESTIGATOR WOULD NOT AT THIS TIME BE ABLE TO COME

UP WITH ANYTHING MORE. AS WE STATE IN THE LETTER, IT IS PROBABLY IMPOSSIBLE TO DETERMINE WITH ANY CERTAINTY EXACTLY WHAT CAUSED MR. GANEK'S DEATH. WE ARE REASONABLY CERTAIN HOWEVER THAT IT WAS ACCIDENTAL, PROBABLY THE RESULT OF HIS UNFAMILIARITY WITH MEPROBAMATE AND OTHER DRUGS THAT ARE SOLD HERE. AS WE CONCLUDE IN THE LETTER, "IT WAS A TRAGIC ACCIDENT OF A KIND THAT STRIKES ALL TOO OFTEN THOSE WHO ARE IN UNFAMILIAR SURROUNDINGS AND RISK EXPERIMENTING WITH LOCAL DRUGS OR MEDICATION."

5. REGRET THAT A MAJOR PROBLEM IN HANDLING INQUIRIES IN THIS CASE AS WELL AS IN SIMILAR CASES IS THE VERY SLOW MAIL SERVICE FROM THIS REMOTE POST AND THE UNITED STATES. APO MAIL IS DELIVERED BY TWICE WEEKLY DIPLOMATIC POUCH FROM BANGKOK AND RETURNED IN THE SAME MANNER.  
TANNER

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 28-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770270-0833  
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**Message ID:** abf68662-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION SCSE  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 STATE 176105  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 17-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 1722002  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** n/a  
**TAGS:** CDES, TH, (GANEK, DAVID LEWIN)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/abf68662-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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